

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIEP-02 L-03 TRSE-00

SS-20 SPC-03 INR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-07 CIAE-00

COME-00 RSC-01 /075 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/OIA:CNELLIS/MKENNEDY:TREASURY-MBLAKE/BK

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----- 104147

R 142319Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 051887

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, IR

SUBJECT: GOI INTEREST IN PURCHASE OF HUGHES AIRCRAFT

REFS: TEHRAN 1486 AND 149; STATE 027694 AND 48689

1. YOU MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE IN DISCUSSION WITH MINECON.

2. ASSUME REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON USG ATTITUDE TOWARD GOI ATTEMPT TO PURCHASE HUGHES AIRCRAFT RELATES TO A PURCHASE OF A DEFENSE PLANT AS INDICATED IN TEHRAN'S 149. IF THIS ASSUMPTION BE CORRECT, RESPONSE REMAINS AS STATED IN STATE 027694.

3. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DOD RESTRICTIONS IRAN SHOULD BE AWARE OF IN CONSIDERING THE DESIRABILITY OF PURCHASING
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HUGHES AIRCRAFT. THESE RELATE PRINCIPALLY TO THE VOLUME

AND NATURE OF DEFENSE ORDERS THAT COULD BE PLACED WITH A PLANT OWNED OR OPERATED BY NON-U.S. (AND SECURITY CLEARED) PERSONNEL. THE NEGATIVE IMPACT THESE RESTRICTIONS WOULD HAVE ON HUGHES'S SALES PROFITS AND EMPLOYMENT WOULD DOUBTLESS BE EXTENSIVE AND WOULD MAKE ITS CONTINUED VIABILITY AT LEAST IN THE SHORT RUN QUESTIONABLE.

4. AIDE MEMOIRE HANDED TO GEN. TOUFANIAN INDICATES A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES FOR PLACEMENT OF GOI INVESTMENT FUNDS WHICH WOULD BE OF SUBSTANTIAL MUTUAL BENEFIT TO

BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. WE WILL BE PLEASED TO SIT DOWN WITH GOI TO DEVELOP SUITABLE DIRECT INVESTMENT PROPOSALS, INCLUDING PROJECTS IN HIGH TECHNOLOGY AREAS WHICH WE UNDERSTAND ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO GOI. WE ALSO BELIEVE THERE IS SCOPE FOR ADVANTAGEOUS PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECURITIES WHICH CAN BE ELABORATED BEST IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. YOU MAY WISH TO DEVELOP THE FOREGOING WITH THE GOI IN THE CONTEXT OF YOUR OVERALL APPROACH TO DEVELOPING DEEPER AND BROADER U.S.-GOI RELATIONS AS OUTLINED IN STATE 48689. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: STATE 051887 - DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, MR. NEWLIN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, BUSINESS FIRMS, ARMS PRODUCTION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE051887
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MBLAKE/BK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740342/aaaabnmz.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TEHRAN 1486 AND 149; STATE 027694 AN, D 48689
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOI INTEREST IN PURCHASE OF HUGHES AIRCRAFT
TAGS: EIND, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005